



March 24, 2005

**Pawtucket cocaine trafficker, a career offender,
is sentenced to 262 months in federal prison**

A federal judge has sentenced **Robert J. Evans**, of Pawtucket, to 262 months in federal prison for cocaine trafficking. Evans, who has a lengthy criminal record, had nearly a kilogram of cocaine powder and 123 grams of crack cocaine in his possession when **Pawtucket** and **East Providence Police** arrested him in June 2003.

United States Attorney Robert Clark Corrente announced the sentence, which U.S. District Court Judge Mary M. Lisi imposed on March 17 in U.S. District Court, Providence.

Because of his prior convictions, Evans was considered a career offender under federal sentencing law. His convictions include drug trafficking, an assault with intent to murder in which he shot a man in the leg, and another assault with a firearm. Evans, 34, had been arrested 21 times as an adult.

Patricia Vicente, 24, of Pawtucket, who was charged as a result of the same investigation, is serving a 30-month federal prison sentence for transporting nearly a half-kilogram of cocaine.

Evans pleaded guilty last March to two federal cocaine-trafficking charges. At the plea hearing, Assistant U.S. Attorney Kenneth P. Madden said that the government

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could prove that, on June 5, 2003, detectives seized 495 grams of cocaine from a car that Vicente was driving and later found nearly a kilogram of powder cocaine and 123 grams of crack cocaine in Evans' possession.

Detectives had followed Vicente from her home at 140 Mineral Spring Avenue into East Providence, suspecting that she was transporting cocaine to a customer in a deal that Evans had arranged. They stopped her car on North Broadway, seized the cocaine, and arrested her.

Pawtucket Police officers then went to Vicente's apartment at 140 Mineral Spring Avenue and saw Evans leaving the apartment carrying a bag. He threw the bag back into the apartment and attempted to flee but officers arrested him after a brief chase and seized \$3,276 in cash from him. In the bag, police found 123 grams of crack cocaine, 176 grams of cocaine powder and approximately \$12,000 in cash. At Evans' apartment at 75 Trenton Street, police found an additional 794 grams of cocaine powder.

Evans pleaded guilty to possessing with intent to distribute more than 50 grams of cocaine base (crack) and possessing with intent to distribute more than 500 grams of cocaine (powder).

In December 2003, Vicente pleaded guilty to possessing with intent to distribute cocaine and Judge Lisi subsequently sentenced her to 30 months in federal prison.

East Providence Police and **Pawtucket Police** investigated the case, with assistance from the **Drug Enforcement Administration**. Assistant U.S. Attorney Madden prosecuted it.

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